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MINUTES FOR RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD 2 JUNE 1995 KANSAS
CITY MO
7/6/1995
AIR FORCE BASE CONVERSION AGENCY



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE BASE CONVERSION AGENCY

6 JUL 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: OL Z, AFBCA
407 1st Street
(Building 512, K. I. Sawyer AFB)
Gwinn MI 49841

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

1. Place: Marquette Holiday Inn, 1051 US 41 West, Marquette, Michigan
2. Date and Time: June 2, 1995; 1:00 p.m.
3. Co-Chairs: Mr. Gary Koski, Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Environmental Coordinator, and Mr. John G. Meier.

4. RAB Members Present:

Mr. Paul G. Hemmila - Site Manager, Air Force Base Conversion Agency (Alternate for Col David VanDenburg)
Mr. Richard Aho - Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority
Mr. Edward Bailey - K. I. Sawyer Base Conversion Authority (KISBCA)
Mr. Phillip Doepke - Trout Unlimited
Mr. Jim Kippola - Marquette County
Mr. Ron Larson
Ms. Diana Mally - US EPA
Mr. Lee Nellist - Gwinn Area Business Association
Mr. Mark Petrie - MDNR
Mr. Steven White

5. RAB Members Absent:

Mr. David Agee - Sierra Club
Mr. Larry Coehoorn - Base Transition Coordinator
Mr. William Gray - Operating Engineers Local 324

6. Others Present:

Mr. Mark Hansen, OL Z, AFBCA	Mr. Tom Rumora, KISBCA
Mr. Ray Lane, Corps of Engineers	Ms. Shirley Curry, AFBCA/EX
Mrs. Angie Doyen, OL Z, AFBCA	Capt Hubbard, 410 BW Public Affairs

7. Mr. Koski announced Mr. Scott Gygi's resignation to the RAB. Solicitation for his position on the RAB by a member of the public will be made through the Mining Journal. Mr. Koski welcomed Col VanDenburg's alternate, Mr. Hemmila, to the RAB. He explained that Col VanDenburg will be leaving in the near future and may not attend the August meeting. At the August meeting, action will be taken to nominate Mr. Hemmila as a RAB member. Also introduced was Ms Shirley Curry, AFBCA Public Affairs representative, Washington D. C.

8. Agenda Items:

a. Approval of Agenda. The agenda was approved as written.

b. Approval of Minutes - February 3 and April 7, 1995. The minutes were approved as written.

c. Mr. Hansen presented a briefing on the current, ongoing projects (Attachment 2). Under Total Environmental Restoration Contract (TERC) Delivery Order Number 6, the following work is being done:

(1) Four sites under Operable Unit 2 (Avenue G Fuel Spill, Underground Storage Tanks at Buildings 826 and 709, and Drainage Pond Number 2).

(2) Basewide groundwater monitoring plan.

(3) Supplemental Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Studies (RI/FS) at Landfills 1-4 and at Buildings 534 and 610.

(4) Interim Remedial Action at the Bulk Fuels Storage Area. Two separate groundwater treatment facilities which starting operating on December 2, 1994, have recovered 150 gallons of jet fuel from approximately 700,000 gallons of groundwater.

The draft Remedial Investigation documents have been completed and will be filed at the Peter White Library. It was discussed and agreed by RAB members to conduct a base tour of these areas with the contractor, Rust Environment. A tour date of July 18, 1995, was scheduled.

In addition to the above projects, final Preliminary Assessments (PA) have been completed under Delivery Order Number 8 for the following sites: Coal storage area, B-52 crash site, skeet/firing ranges, Building 230 underground/aboveground storage tanks, and material drying beds. The PA reports and the site investigation (SI) work plans will be available at the Peter White Library.

d. Mr. Koski presented a slide briefing of the FY 95 and FY 96 programs (Attachment 3).

(1) The total cost of the 95 program is \$14.8 million. He noted the project scope for the assessment of two grenade ranges has changed; only one range will be tested this year. Landfill 9 may slip to 96 and the Corps is looking at capping Landfill 11. Two projects may be added to the 95 program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act for the firing range, Building 744 and DRMO, bringing the total 95 program up to \$18.8 million. Mr. Aho asked if the basewide groundwater monitoring wells checked for pesticides and Mr. Koski replied they did. Ms Mally briefed wells at some sites will be looking for everything; on the other hand, some wells will be only looking for specific things. In addition, Mr. Petrie explained some of the wells are over a decade old and will have to be plugged and perhaps new wells installed. Ms Mally added this is the procedure used at other closure bases, such as Wurtsmith. She is working with them now on their groundwater monitoring.

Mr. Doepke questioned whether capping Landfill 11 was an environmentally sound approach. Mr. Koski replied we are above Michigan contaminants standards in that area. Mr. Petrie explained that once the cap is on, rain and snow melt won't be able to infiltrate the landfill and create a leachate. It may take a year or so after capping to see the effects on the groundwater from this remedy. The cap is made up of a clay or high density polyethylene multi-layer system meeting statutory requirements. Part of the money for this project is for 10 years of groundwater monitoring. Mr. White asked if any of the landfills would ever be excavated and brought somewhere else. Mr. Petrie replied no. Mr. Doepke asked if the vents on the cap release gases and if so, what is done with the gases? Mr. Petrie replied the gas vents allow methane to escape. Other gases that could be present are denser than air so they are not expected to rise and escape through the vent system.

(2) The FY 96 Program totals \$7.4 million. This program is being closely scrutinized. The project for investigation/cleanup of the Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU) sites encompasses 50 individual sites at \$2 million. This project is receiving much scrutiny at higher levels. The lead-based paint project in military family housing requires that pre-1960 units be inspected and abated for lead. However, that policy is now being reviewed. In most cases, long-term abatement means encapsulation by covering with drywall or removal of trim. The majority of the industrial buildings and housing units were surveyed for asbestos. As a result, the asbestos furnace collars were removed in housing. The FY 96 project is a follow-up survey only of the facilities that will be reused. In the industrial buildings on base, most of the asbestos is located in the mechanical rooms. Much of the abatement in these areas is done by repairing water pipes at the elbows. If the Base Bioenvironmental Engineering section determines a health hazard is present, abatement must be accomplished. Removal operations require air sampling to be done.

Mr. White asked of the \$50 million the Air Force will be spending on cleanup, how much has already been spent? Mr. Koski replied between 1983 and 1993, approximately \$11 million were spent. Between now and the time cleanup is done, we're looking at spending \$35 million, down from an originally estimated \$45 million. The numbers are coming down as our requirements are becoming more defined. Those original numbers were only rough estimates, based on limited information. We have projected requirements out to the year 2000.

Mr. Kippola asked if the information collected in the groundwater monitoring project would be helpful concerning the lake level issue. Mr. Koski replied water levels will be recorded during well sampling and Mr. Hansen added water levels were taken at all the wells inventoried and inspected last fall.

e. Draft Decision Documents for the remedial investigation/feasibility study for seven sites were given to RAB members and Mr. Hansen presented a slide briefing showing the selected remediations. A copy of the slide briefing is at Attachment 4, and although the Draft Decision Documents are listed as Attachment 5 to these minutes, RAB members were given copies at the meeting so these documents will not be attached to their meeting minutes. At the 3 February 1995 RAB meeting, Mr. Phil Smith, a representative of the contractor CH2M Hill, gave a briefing on the site specific remediation alternatives. It was noted the extent of remediation required at both fire training areas will be determined in 95 and the soil remediation will begin in 96.

Mr. Petrie briefed the Board on the expected changes in the State's cleanup standards. Many revisions will be made concerning allowable contaminant levels; the allowable levels for some compounds will be raised by a factor of 10 while others will be defaulted to Federal standards. Ms. Mally added that State cleanup requirements must, as a minimum, meet the Federal standards. Mr. Petrie also stated the previous Type A, B and C cleanup criteria have now been replaced by 10 cleanup scenarios.

Mr. Larson asked if the draft decision documents that have been prepared up to this point only meet the old standards. Mr. Koski briefed that in the case of the gas station at the Shoppette, there will be no affect. There may be nothing that needs to be done in that area under the new requirements. We will continue with soil vapor extraction at the two fire training sites. Mr. Larson also asked if, under the new standards, a site could be reopened or reclassified. Mr. Petrie explained the DNR's policy is if a site is cleaned up to existing standards and new toxicological data causes more stringent cleanup standards, the DNR will not reopen the site. On the other hand, if standards become less stringent, they may be incorporated immediately into a cleanup program.

9. Comments by RAB Members.

a. Mr Koski introduced Mr. Tom Ramura, the new K. I. Sawyer Base Conversion Authority Executive Director.

b. Mr. Koski announced the Air Force Base Conversion Agency's new address and telephone number:

OL Z, AFBCA
407 1st Street
(Building 512, K. I. Sawyer)
Gwinn MI 49841

Telephone: Voice - (906) 346-3090 Telefax - (906) 346-3111

c. Mr. Bailey is interested in viewing environmental cleanup sites and Mr. Ray Lane, Corps of Engineers, will arrange for them to visit the Fuels Storage Area next week.

d. Mr. Koski thanked Capt Hubbard for the excellent article his office prepared for the base newspaper, the Northern Light, on the base's environmental cleanup activities. In addition, the Mining Journal also plans a feature article on the base's cleanup efforts.

e. Mr. Bailey requested copies of the handouts such as the decision documents be provided to RAB members at least one week prior to the meeting so members have adequate time to review the documents. Every effort will be made to mail information to RAB members prior to the meeting. However, in some instances it will not be possible to do this. There is ample opportunity for comments to be made on these draft documents. This item will again be discussed at the August meeting.

f. Mr. Petrie will not be available for the August 4, 1995, RAB meeting. He will ensure a representative from his office will be in attendance to present a briefing on the changes in State cleanup standards.

10. Next Meeting Date and Time. The next meeting of the RAB is scheduled for August 4, 1995, at 1:00 p.m. at the Marquette Holiday Inn, Iron and Copper Room.

11. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.



GARY R. KOSKI
BRAC Environmental Coordinator - Co-Chair



JOHN G. MEIER
Co-Chair

Attachments:

1. Distribution
2. Current Projects
3. FY 95/96 Project Summary
4. Selected Remediation
5. Draft Decision Documents

DISTRIBUTION:

RAB Members

AFBCA/CE-EV (Mr. John Fringer)

410 BW/PA

Mr. Brian Hoenes, Energy & Env Tech Co.

Ms Debbie Kauffman, WW Operations Svcs

Mr. Paul Hemmila, AFBCA/OL-Z

Mr. Andy Smits

Mr. Greg Herring, Corps of Engineers

Mr. Carl Lindquist, Mqt Cty Soil & Waste Conservation District

Ms Jane Surrell, Mqt Cty Groundwater Center

Mr. Fred Benzie, Mqt Cty Health Department

Administrative Record

Information Repository